

**Claims:**

1. A food slicing apparatus, comprising:
  - a) an enclosure to support therein food to be sliced, the enclosure having an access opening;
  - 5 b) a cover for the access opening, the cover moveable relative to the enclosure from an open position to a closed position;
  - c) a guide for guiding a blade to slice food supported within the enclosure; and
  - d) a stop connected to the cover and moveable relative to
  - 10 the guide, so that when the cover is in an open position the stop at least partially obstructs the guide.
2. A food slicing apparatus, comprising:
  - a) an enclosure to support therein food to be sliced, the enclosure having an access opening;
  - 15 b) a guide for guiding a blade to slice food supported within the enclosure;
  - c) a stop to at least partially obstruct the guide; and
  - d) a cover for the access opening, the cover moveable relative to the enclosure from an open position to a closed position, the cover
  - 20 connected to at least one of the guide and the stop to displace the guide and the stop relative to one another, so that when the cover is in an open position the stop at least partially obstructs the guide.
3. A food slicing apparatus according to claims 1 or 2, wherein the stop is presented near at least one end of the guide.
- 25 4. A food slicing apparatus according to claims 1 or 2, wherein the stop is presented near each end of the guide.
5. A food slicing apparatus according to claims 3 or 4, wherein the stop is spaced from an inside wall of the enclosure a sufficient extent to retain therebetween the blade.

6. A food slicing apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 5, further comprising a linkage assembly to connect the stop to the cover.
7. A food slicing apparatus according to claim 6 wherein the linkage assembly comprises a slotted arm.
- 5 8. A food slicing apparatus according to claim 6 wherein the linkage assembly comprises a curved slotted arm having one end connected to the cover, and the stop presenting a pin for sliding fit within the curved slotted portion of the curved slotted arm.
9. A food slicing apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein
- 10 the guide guides the blade substantially in a plane to slice food supported within the enclosure.
10. A food slicing apparatus according to claim 9 further comprising a contact surface to engage the blade, the contact surface connected to the cover and moveable relative to the guide, so that as the cover is displaced to
- 15 an open position the contact surface is displaced to at least partially cross the plane of the guide.
11. A food slicing apparatus according to claim 10 further comprising a contact surface to engage the blade, and wherein the cover is connected to at least one of the contact surface and the guide to displace the contact surface
- 20 and the guide relative to one another, so that as the cover is displaced to an open position the contact surface is displaced to at least partially cross the plane of the guide.
12. A food slicing apparatus according to claims 10 or 11, wherein the contact surface is connected to the stop.
- 25 13. A food slicing apparatus according to claims 10 or 11, wherein the stop is presented near each end of the guide, and the contact surface is connected to each stop and extends therebetween.

14. A food slicing apparatus according to any one of claims 10 to 13, wherein the contact surface is part of a support with the enclosure to support food to be sliced.
15. A food slicing apparatus according to claim 14 wherein the support is in the form of a cradle and the contact surface forms the sides thereof.
16. A food slicing apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 15, further comprising an abutting surface presented within the enclosure and moveable relative thereto to engage at least one side of food supported within the enclosure so that the food can be sliced.
17. A food slicing apparatus according to claim 16 further comprising an actuator presented outside of the enclosure and connected to the abutting surface to displace the abutting surface relative to the enclosure.
18. A food slicing apparatus according to claim 17 wherein the actuator is biased to normally present the abutting surface away from where food is supported within the enclosure.
19. A food slicing apparatus according to claim 18 wherein the actuator is a compressible handle.
20. A food slicing apparatus according to any one of claims 16 to 19, wherein the abutting surface and the actuator are provided by the cover.
21. A food slicing apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 20, wherein one end of the blade extends outwardly of the enclosure along one side of the guide.
22. A food slicing apparatus according to claim 21 wherein the end of the blade that extends outwardly of the enclosure is provided with a handle.
23. A food slicing apparatus according to claims 21 or 22, wherein the other end of the blade is provided with a blade stop that is slideable within a channel provided by the enclosure along the other side of the guide.

24. A food slicing apparatus, comprising:

- a) an enclosure to support therein food to be sliced, the enclosure having an access opening;
- b) a cover for the access opening, the cover moveable  
5 relative to the enclosure from an open position to a closed position;
- c) a guide for guiding a blade substantially in a plane to slice food supported within the enclosure; and
- d) a contact surface to engage the blade, the contact surface connected to the cover and moveable relative to the guide, so that as  
10 the cover is displaced to an open position the contact surface is displaced to at least partially cross the plane of the guide.

25. A food slicing apparatus, comprising:

- a) an enclosure to support food therein to be sliced, the enclosure having an access opening;
- 15 b) a guide for guiding a blade substantially in a plane to slice food supported within the enclosure;
- c) a contact surface to engage the blade; and
- d) a cover for the access opening, the cover moveable relative to the enclosure from an open position to a closed position, the cover  
20 connected to at least one of the contact surface and the guide to displace the contact surface and the guide relative to one another, so that as the cover is displaced to an open position the contact surface is displaced to at least partially cross the plane of the guide.

26. A food slicing apparatus, comprising:

- 25 a) an enclosure to support therein food to be sliced;
- b) an abutting surface presented within the enclosure and moveable relative thereto to engage at least one side of food supported within the enclosure so that the food can be sliced; and
- c) an actuator presented outside of the enclosure and  
30 connected to the abutting surface to displace the abutting surface relative to the enclosure.